

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

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TAGS: ISVS OCON

SUBJ: ISVI-LIAISON COMMITTEE AND 15TH COUNCIL SESSION

SUMMARY: THREE-DAYS OF ISVS MEETINGS FOCUSED ON BUDGET AND ADOPTION OF REPORT OF WORKING GROUP ON ENLARGING COOPERATION WITH UN ORGANIZATIONS. FUTURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF MAJOR DONOR COUNTRIES IN DOUBT WITH EXCEPTION FRANCE WHICH APPEARS TO BE PURSUING POLITICAL OBJECTIVES WITH FRANCOPHONE AFRICANS. SECRETARIAT PERFORMANCE, IN PERSON SEC GEN ZOLLNER, EVASIVE AND DEFENSIVE. PROPOSED 75/76 BUDGET ADOPTED, BUT DONE SO WITH RESERVATIONS OF MAJOR DONORS AND WITH ADDITIONAL RESERVATION WITH THAT EXPENDITURES WILL ONLY BE COMMITTEED WITHIN LIMITS OF ACTUAL REVENUE. END SUMMARY.

1. DEBATE ON BUDGET IN BOTH LIAISON COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MARKED BY ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MAJOR DONORS THAT FUTURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT UNCERTAIN. US ANNOUNCEMENT OF CESSATION OF CONTRIBUTION TO REGULAR BUDGET BEYOND JUNE 1975, TOGETHER WITH DECLARATIONS BY DENMARK, FRG, SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN (LATTER IS CONTRIBUTING ASSEMBLY MEMBER) THAT NO DECISIONS TO FUND BEYOND JUNE 1975 YET TAKEN, ADDED UP TO EXTREMELY UNCERTAIN FINANCIAL FUTURE FOR ORGANIZATION. NETHERLANDS
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WILL CONTINUE CONTRIBUTION THROUGH DEC 1975 BUT WILL RECONSIDER

AT THAT TIME. ONLY FRANCE ASSURED CONTINUED SUPPORT IN WHAT WAS OBVIOUS ATTEMPT TO ACT AS SAVIOR OF ORGANIZATION IN EYES FRANCOPHONE AFRICANS WHO ACTED AS ZOLLNER'S SUPPORT IN COUNCIL. HOWEVER, IT CLEAR TO ALL THAT 75/76 BUDGET MERELY A SHELL. REPEATED AND EMOTIONAL PLEAS BY IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL FOR RECONSIDERATION BY MAJOR DONORS FELL ON DEAF EARS.

2. SECGEN PRESSED BY US AND OTHER MAJOR DONORS FOR DETAILS ON STAFFING, SALARIES, TRAVEL, EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS, USE OF SPECIAL FUND, AND OUTSTANDING BANK DEBT. ON ALL THESE ISSUES RESPONSES WERE OBLIQUE AND DEFENSIVE. SECGEN TACTIC, AS IN PAST, WAS TO COUNTER-ATTACK WITH CLAIMS OF BETTER MANAGEMENT AND EXPANDING PROGRAM. MOST OF DEBATE WAS DEVOID OF SUBSTANCE AND MARKED BY APPARENT ZOLLNER-INSPIRED EXPLANATIONS OF SUPPORT FROM LDC'S TO COUNTER SHARP QUESTIONING FROM DC'S.

3. QUESTION OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REFERRED TO OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP WHICH WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO NEXT COUNCIL SESSION. WE WILL ATTEMPT SETTLE MATTER OF BANK DEBT IN THAT FORUM. BEST ESTIMATE WE NOW HAVE ON OUTSTANDING BANK DEBT IS ABOUT \$40-50,000 ALTHOUGH WE KNOW IT FLUCTUATES CONSIDERABLY MONTH TO MONTH.

4. WORKING GROUP RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AS PRESENTED ALTHOUGH NOT WITHOUT FIGHT BY U.S. TO KILL FRENCH INITIATIVE WHICH WOULD HAVE DESTROYED BALANCE OF RESOLUTION BY STRESSING LAUDATORY PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH.

5. OTHER THAN BUDGET AND WORKING GROUP RESOLUTIONS, LDC-INSPIRED RESOLUTIONS WERE PASSED COMMENDING SECGEN'S GOOD MANAGEMENT DURING PAST YEAR AND CALLING ON HIM TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS FOR GREATER COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. RESOLUTION ALSO ADOPTED CALLING FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY ON CREATION OF SECRETARIAT OF YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE. THIS WAS PROPOSED BY SWITZERLAND AS A FOLLOW-UP TO DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT BY WORKING GROUP IN APRIL.

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6. ON UNV/ISVS RELATIONS, UNV COORDINATOR JOHN GORDON, IN BRIEF ADDRESS TO COUNCIL, SAID UNV WOULD NOT DUPLICATE ISVS ACTIVITIES AND WOULD CONSULT WHEN POSSIBILITY OF DUPLICATION AROSE. ZOLLNER PROMISED SAME FROM HIS SIDE.

7. NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL SET FOR LATTER HALF SEPT 1975.

8. COMMENT: WHILE ZOLLNER HAS BACKING OF LDC'S AND AT LEAST VERBAL BACKING OF FRANCE, THERE LITTLE DOUBT THAT UNCERTAIN FINANCIAL FUTURE WILL MEAN FURTHER EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR ORGANIZATION. IT APPEARS ZOLLERN KEENLY AWARE OF THIS AS NERVOUSNESS AND DEFENSIVENESS DURING MEETINGS CLEARLY IN EVIDENCE. HOWEVER, HE IS PUTTING UP STRONG FRONT AIMED AT DEMONSTRATING DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE AND ASKED U.S. DELEGATE IN PRIVATE NOT TO PRESSURE OTHERS TO DISCONTINUE SUPPORT. THIS PLEA CAME AFTER LIBERIAN DELEGATE, IN PLENARY SESSION, SAID THAT PERHAPS TIME HAD COME TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT MERGER WITH UNV. ABRAMS

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